

FREE MASONRY

ODD FELLOWSHIP

Continued from last week.

NUMBERS. We consider the number three, or three times three, as a sacred number; and in all the mysteries of the science, the number nine, was most important. Whether, as in Christianity, Freemasons still have an ancient explanation of the sacredness of this number, or whether we derive its sanctity from the Holy Trinity, we cannot here determine.

OBEDIENCE. To be obedient is one of the great duties of a Freemason, not only to the laws of the Craft, but to the laws of the Kingdom or state in which he may reside, to the laws of God, to the laws of morality, but above all, to the laws of true benevolence. He is also bound to be obedient to the commands of his superiors when in the lodge; but every ruler ought to be cautious, and only give such orders as may be cheerfully obeyed by a free man and Mason, and not require a slavish obedience, for in the lodge there are neither lords nor slaves, but truth and justice must there reign in unanimity.

OBLATIONS. The oblations which were made by the people towards the erection of the Tabernacle, were so many types of the several graces of Christianity; the gold of Faith, the silver of Hope, the precious stones of Charity; the blue colour of the silks, &c., denoting the lifting up our hearts to heaven, a privilege conveyed to mankind by the meritorious tenement of Jesus Christ; the purple, our warfare and tribulation for the sake of religion; and the crimson or as the original words (tolag hath shani) signify, the double scarlet, the joint love of God and man.

OBLIGATION. Freemasons in their secret societies, obligate their disciples, similar to the ancient brethren, to keep their doctrines, their engagements, and their transactions, from those who are not of the Order. This obligation is not composed of such tremendous oaths with which we are charged by bigots, who, ignorant as they naturally must be, of the whole of our transactions, unless they had been received into our society, thunder their unholy anathemas and excommunications against us. And thereby make fools approve their rash acts, the world wonder, and the Mason smile at their daring insolence, to condemn their fellow-creatures for imaginary sins against God religion, which must ultimately be laid to the charge of those triflers with their neighbour's consciences

OBLONG. The Tabernacle with its holy emblems, was a type of a Mason's lodge. It was an oblong square, and, with its courts and appendages, it represented the whole habitable globe. Such is also the extent of our lodges. The former was supported by pillars, and the latter is also sustained by those of W. S. and B. They were equally situated due east and west. The sacred roll of God's revealed will and law was deposited in the Ark of the Covenant; the same holy record is placed in a conspicuous part of our lodges. The altar of incense was a double cube; and so is our pedestal and stone of foundation. The covering of the Tabernacle was composed of three colours, as a representation of the celestial hemisphere; such also is the covering of a Mason's lodge. The floor of the Tabernacle was so holy that the priests were forbidden to tread upon it without taking off their shoes; the floor of the lodge is holy ground.

OBSERVANCES. Almost all the circumstances attending the promulgation of the Jewish dispensations have been introduced into Freemasonry; and the particular observances incorporated with its ceremonial. The Divine appearance at the Burning Bush, the shoes, the rod, the serpent, and the Sacred Name, are equally embodied in the system. The plagues of Egypt, with the signs which attended the divine deliverance of the children of Israel from captivity—the pillar of a cloud and of fire, the mighty winds, the division of the Red Sea, the salvation of God's people, and the destruction of Pharaoh and his host; the wanderings in the wilderness, the delivery of the law, the building of the Tabernacle, and the establishment of the hierarchy, the order observed in the frequent migrations, led by the banners of each tribe, and other important events, all form parts of the complicated system of Freemasonry, and show its connection with the offices of religion.

ODD NUMBERS. Odd numbers were ever esteemed more propitious than even ones, and hence were the conservators of greater virtues. They were sacred to the celestial deities, and represented the male sex, while even numbers were female and appropriated to the subterranean gods. Hence the monad was esteemed the father of numbers, and the duad the mother, from whose union proceeded not only the tried but the sacred quaternary, which was the origin of the seven liberal

sciences, and the maker and cause of all things.

History and Cyclopedia of Freemasonry by Maury Oliver. Page 600—601—602—603.

(To be Continued.)

RADIO ITEMS.

"By Topsy"

I will write some items for your paper.

Rabbit hunting is the order of the day.

The party given at Marshal Crawford's Wednesday night was well attended by all of the young people of this neighborhood.

We understand that William Pipkin is going to buy an interest in Akemans and Crawford's store as they are invoiceing their goods.

Oscar Akeman what is the attraction down at Taylor Rusts I will ask Lizzie she knows, you had better look out or Walter Cunningham will beat you.

Arthur Akeman when was the last time you was down at Isaac Barbes you had not better go any more Isaac will get his razor strap and make some shoe strings.

Racker Ridge box supper was well attended by old and young.

Elmer Dodson you had better go and see Viola Lemons as Adarian Coats has gone a sheep killing.

Vdah Coats made a flying trip to Mt. Grove Wednesday he was gone two days.

James Forrester and John Forrester and Earl Lee has gone to the Indian Territory and are now at work at that place.

We hope Lewis Edgar and Marian Forrester success in their trip to Oregon.

There is a picture gallery at Radio Mo, every body come and get your beauty struck.

Vlas Crawford had his horse's picture taken I guess he is going to put him on exhibition at the worlds fair at St. Louis next year.

Mrs. Susan Scaggs is on the sick list this week, and Mrs. Lee is on the sick list at Dykes Mo.

John Baney made a flying trip to Cabool yesterday.

The Lone Star School is progressing nicely under the management of Julia Sutton of Raymondville.

Cay Hargis you want to stand up don't fall down and roll around like you was drunk at the next party you go to.

Ed. Lenard said that he was a going to see that no body wen down to Billey Walls.

Pink Hargis you will have to look out or Clent Mead will get your house talk up.

Will Rust told he was a going to have his picture taken to scare the crows out of the corn field next spring.

Well I will close for this time If this escapes the wast basket will come again.

—These Items was croyded out last week.

JAH-Ville, Fowler, Mo.

L. S. Garrett. Ed. CHASSET

Dear Bro. while I was en a business trip to Simmons and else where, I met with one of my old S. Dak. friends and customers.

It was like an oasis to the weary traveler on the desert, it brought to my mind many pleasant reminiscences of long ago. Yes, through him may be confirmed statements that I have made about that country etc.

I also found him battling against the cunning devices of satan as best he can, with the light he has. He asked me if I thought that the Jews could be saved through Christ? I would even answer this question in the affirmative. The question shows the position that is taken by many today, that the Jews are lost beyond redemption, to such I would ask them to read this.

"I say then, hath God cast away his people? God forbid. For I also am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin.

"God hath not cast away his people, which he foreknew. Wot ye not what the scripture saith of Elias? How he maketh intercession to God against Israel saying,

Lord they have killed thy prophets, and digged down thine altars; and I am left alone and they seek my life.

"But what saith the answer of God unto him, I have reserved to myself seven thousand men who have not bowed the knee to the image of Baal.

Even so at this present time, also, there is a remnant according to the election of grace.

But you see by the above scripture, that God hath not thrown away the Jews or Israelites, no. (According as it is written, God hath given them the spirit of slumber, eyes that they should not see, and ears that they should not hear;) unto this day.

"And David saith let their table be made a snare and a trap and a stumbling block and a recompence unto them, let their eyes be darkened, that they may not see, and bow down their back alway.

"I say then have they stumbled that they should fall? God forbid, but rather through their fall salvation is come unto the Gentiles for to provoke them to jealousy. As it reads in Rom. 11—1—11.

We see by the above scripture that there were two distinct nations of people separate and apart from each other. One was already in possession of salvation, traveling on the Highway, (the Mosaic Law.) The other an ungodly people without salvation, like the beast.

"He hath blinded their eyes and hardened their hearts, that they should not see with their eyes and understand with their heart, and be converted and I should heal them.

"These things said Esau, when he saw his glory and spake of him. St John 14—37—41.

Again. "What then? Israel hath not obtained that which he seeketh for, but the election hath obtained it and the rest were blinded."

God blinded them as you will see by reading the following scripture:

According as it written, God hath given them the Spirit of slumber, eyes that they should not see, and ears that they should not hear; unto this day.

For I would not brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits, that blindness in part is happened unto Israel until the fullness of Gentiles be come in. [Rom 11—7—8—25.]

Now you see, Bro. that God blinded their eyes, [the Jews] that salvation should be granted to the Gentiles. Now as God in his great plan of salvation and extreme mercy toward us [the Gentiles] that were without God in the world, should cast them off retrievably, banish one nation, his own people, a people that by him, were called his sons into everlasting darkness, for another people. Would not this be unjust in the extreme? I think he would. No he used his own people [the Jews] in connection with his only Son, who died the death of the cross, to bring a people that was not a people, by his shed blood near unto

God as we read, giving them and us salvation.

Stop and consider what the Jews as an instrument in God's hands have done for us, then to think that God would use a little handful of people to accomplish the salvation of another and then cast them off. It is true that the Jews are scattered through all nations.

But what God says about their return:

"For I will be unto Ephraim as a lion, as a young lion to the house of Juda, even I will tear and go away. I will take away, and none shall rescue him."

I will go and return to my place, till they acknowledge their offences and seek my face, in their affliction, they will seek me early." Hosea 5—14—15.

We learn by the above scripture that Christ left them, and that they would in their afflictions seek him, this is Christ's own words. Do you think that Christ would violate his own declaration and cast them off? No but the above scripture proves that they are to be gathered and restored. You though they have lived among the nations, now will I gather them. And they shall sorrow a little for the burden of the king of princes." Hosea 8—10.

Yes his declaration is that he will gather them again he says, "For behold in those days, and in that time, when I shall bring again the captivity of Juda and Jerusalem, I will also bring all nations, and will bring them down into the valley Jehoshaphat and will plead with them there for my people and for my heritage Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations and parted my land.

Behold I will raise them out of the place whither ye have sold them and I will return your recompence upon your own head.

But Judah shall dwell forever; and Jerusalem from generation to generation.

For I will cleanse their blood that I have not cleansed for the Lord dwelleth in Zion." [Joel 3—1—2—7—20—21.]

Now when God has given his word so plain in and through so many of his holy prophets and apostles we would be doing him an injustice to pass it by, and say that the Jews were, on account of that which they could not help, would pass into the realms of eternal darkness to mourn their loss.

Then again when we see so much recorded in God's Word of what the Jews has suffered, to bring salvation to you and me, would it not be an act of cruel injustice on our part to think or look lightly on the Jews and their suffering; look across the waters and see what they are enduring today your papers will tell you, then go to God's word and it will tell you all about it; it will also tell you that their cries coming up through such great tribulation, will be heard, that teaches us that we are living in the last days. And if that be the case we had better look to our lamps are they full of oil? Are they burning brightly? Or are they waning? Let us look well to ourselves trying ourselves by God's word and see where we lack.

I have brought to your view many of the scriptures that are so abundant in God's word, to show you beyond a doubt that God will remember his people [the Jews] and that soon, so let us look well to our own garments, that it may be well with us then. Truly yours,

—C. A. Simons

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